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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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## INFORMATION REPORT

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1. three Grenzbereitschaften were known to control the Grenze Nord, the northern border of the Soviet Zone of Germany. The 1st Grenzbereitschaft was located in the Norddeutscher Hof Hotel, Greifswald (N 55/P 72); the 2d Grenzbereitschaft was located in Stralsund (N 55/P 44) and controlled Ruegen Island; and the 3rd Grenzbereitschaft was located in Bad Doberan (N 55/O 72). A 4th Grenzbereitschaft was allegedly stationed in the Wismar (N 54/T 49) area or was scheduled to be activated there. Each Grenzbereitschaft had a personnel strength of about 1,000. It was rumored in the units that patrol vessels would soon be commissioned for training police in seamanship. \*

The 1st Grenzbereitschaft "Nord" was organized in late March 1950 into a headquarters and three Kommandanturen, each averaging five Kommandos or border checkpoints. The Hq 1st Grenzbereitschaft was located in the Norddeutscher Hof Hotel, Greifswald, and controlled one Kommando in Greifswald and one in Lubmin (N 55/P 83). The 2d Kommandantur was stationed in Ueckermuende (N 54/Q 18) and controlled one Kommando in Kaminke, one in Stolpe (N 54/L 10), one in Ueckermuende, and one in Lassan (N 54/L 01). The 3rd Kommandantur was located in the Park Hotel, Zinnowitz (O 55/L 02), and had one Kommando in the Hubertus House in Heringsdorf (N 54/L 21), one in the customs house in Koelpinsee (N 54/J 25), one in Zinnowitz, one in Kroeslin, and a border checkpoint in Ahlbeck (N 54/L 21) and Wolgast (N 55/P 92).

3. The 1st Grenzbereitschaft had between 850 and 1,000 police. The headquarters of the Bereitschaft, each Kommandantur headquarters, and each Kommando averaged about 30 police. The Bereitschaft headquarters also had three headquarters platoons totaling 100 to 150 men.
4. Each policeman was armed with a 98-K type carbine or an 08 type pistol. Forty-five rounds of ammunition were available for each carbine.

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## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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5. In late March 1950 the Kommandos were engaged only in patrol duty along the seaboard, reporting immediately any suspicious ship movements. The checkpoint personnel controlled crossing points from the Soviet Zone of Germany to Polish-occupied Germany and checked all inbound and outbound shipping.

6. In late March 1950 the Kommandos had not yet been assigned any naval craft, while the checkpoints allegedly possessed small steam launches. Officers stated in a discussion that training with signal lamps and semaphore flags would soon be started. For training in seamanship the Kommandos would receive ten-oar boats. The checkpoints would be issued craft of the air-sea rescue type. These boats, which were under construction in nationalized plants in East-Berlin, were 27 meters long, armed with machine guns and a light gun and, had a crew of 13.

7. The 1st Grenzbereitschaft was commanded by Kommandeur Gerhard Greve, age about 45, and 170cm tall. Chief of staff was Polizeirat Gerlach (fmu), who had come from the western border. Some of the Kommando chiefs were recently replaced by new officers who had served with the German Navy.

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8. [redacted] the 1st Grenzbereitschaft "Nord" was organized into a headquarters and three Kommandanturen, each with five or six Kommandos or border checkpoints. The HQ of the Bereitschaft was located in the Norddeutscher Hof Hotel, Greifswald. The 1st Kommandantur of the Grenzbereitschaft was located in the Deutsches Haus Hotel and controlled one Kommando in Stahlbrodt (N 55/P 63), one in Gristow (N 55/P 63), one in Lubmin (N 55/P 83), one in Ladebow and a border checkpoint in Ladebow. The 2d Kommandantur was stationed in Ueckermünde and the 3rd Kommandantur in Zinnowitz. An unarmed motor launch, seven meters long, with a crew of three, and belonging to the Ladebow checkpoint, was the only craft in the area of the Greifswald Kommandantur on 1 July 1950.

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9. [redacted] a ten-day instruction course for VP personnel was given at Stintenburg Castle in Kreis Hagenow (N 54/T 24). The course, conducted by Oberpolizeirat Tetsch (fmu), was attended by 36 police, with ranks up to Oberwachtmeister, who had been detached from Bereitschaften of Grenze "Nord". The training stressed basic infantry drill, small arms practice, terrain and map instruction, and political indoctrination. It is believed that Stintenburg Castle will become a school for personnel of Grenze "Nord". \*

25X1A \* [redacted] Comment: Little information has been available on the organization of the Grenzpolizei "Nord" of Land Mecklenburg to date. Some detailed information was available only on the Grenzbereitschaft stationed in Bad Doberan. [redacted] The report on the organization of the Grenzpolizei "Nord" is probably correct, since it was compiled from coinciding statements by several informants. It is not known, however, if any units of the Grenzpolizei "Nord" were to be assigned to the newly-activated Hauptverwaltung Seepolizei (Main Administration of Naval Police). The allocation of patrol boats and speedboats to this VP branch was mentioned frequently in newspaper dispatches but has not been substantiated by other reports.

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